



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Salt Lake Field Office
2370 South 2300 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

JUN 04 2002

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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U-69380
UT-023

Certified Mail Number 7001 2510 0007 1133 9240
Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Gary Mullard
Northern Stone Supply, Inc.
P.O. Box 249
Oakley, Idaho 83346

Dear Mr. Mullard:

On May 24, 2002 we received your abbreviated Plan Amendment (Amendment) for quarrying and stockpiling activities on your Turquoise Stone placer mining claims (PMC) and mill sites (MS), located in Section 18, T. 13 N., R. 13 W. In your submitted Amendment, you propose to conduct operations on your Turquoise Stone PMC (UMC 132860), Turquoise Stone #6 PMC (UMC 347331), Turquoise Stone #7 PMC (UMC 347332), Turquoise Stone MS (UMC 132861), Turquoise Stone MS #2 (UMC 347333), Turquoise Stone MS #3 (UMC 347334) and Turquoise Stone MS #4 (UMC 367371).

We cannot consider your Amendment to be complete until you provide this office with the following information:

- ✓ 1. As required at 43 CFR 3809.401(b)(1), please provide your taxpayer identification number;
- ✓ 2. In your submitted Amendment, you state that your quarrying and stockpiling operations will cause a total surface disturbance of 4 acres. Your existing Plan of Operations is authorized for a total surface disturbance of 6.5 acres, including 3.099 acres for access roads. A field inspection of the area on November 2, 2000 indicates that your operations currently cover a minimum surface area of 14.67 acres, which includes surface disturbance related to your quarrying, stockpiling, work and living areas, access roads and disturbances related to unauthorized activities in the Turquoise Stone #4 MS. Do you intend to reduce the size of your current operation to 4 acres? If so, please provide an updated map showing the area(s) to be reclaimed and a schedule when reclamation is to be completed for each location. If you intend to maintain the present areas of surface disturbance, which includes significant or total disturbance of vegetation and soil on the Turquoise Stone MS #2 and #3 and 2.36 acres of disturbance within the Turquoise MS #4, please confirm this by including this acreage in your Amendment.

- ✓3. The map you provided in your Amendment does not have a scale and cannot be used to verify road lengths, quarry dimensions, etc. Please provide a map, with the appropriate map scale indicated, which represents your existing and/or proposed operations on your mining and mill site claims;
- ✓4. In your submitted Amendment for the equipment, personnel and supporting facilities (at #5D), you state that you propose to use excavators, wheel loaders, haul truck, crusher and grizzly. On your map, you indicate at least two locations on the Turquoise Stone MS #3 and #4 where you propose to operate a grizzly and two rock crushers. Please describe in as much detail as possible the type and number of pieces of equipment you propose to use in your operation, including the capacity of each. This would include a description of each of your rock crushers, and each of your sorting and screening plants. This information is required under 43 CFR 3809.401(b)(2) where it states that your Plan must contain "a description of the equipment, devices, or practices you propose to use during operations;"
- ✓5. Although you list several pieces of heavy excavation equipment in your Amendment, there is no indication how or where you propose to refuel your vehicles or how you propose to conduct maintenance activities at the mine and mill site. Do you propose to install a fuel tank for your proposed operations? Is a fuel tank presently on site? Do you propose to store any other petroleum-related products on-site for routine maintenance of these vehicles, including motor oil, transmission fluids, brake fluids, etc.? If so, where will this material be stored? Please provide a description of your proposed (or existing) fuel tank(s), including the capacity of each and any fuel containment method or methods you propose to implement as part of a "spill contingency plan" to prevent unintentional spills and the unnecessary or undue degradation of public lands. In addition, please show the location of your proposed fuel tank(s) on a map with an appropriate scale.
- ✓6. In your submitted Amendment, you indicate that you propose to mine from two quarries on your Turquoise Stone PMC. The two quarry areas have been mapped using Global Positioning System equipment (GPS) by the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (UDOGM) and presently cover a surface area 3.11 acres in size. In your Amendment (at #6) you state that no exploration will be conducted and that you "do not propose any future expansion", only "restoration." In the following section (at #7) you indicate that you will be excavating 5,000 tons of material per year. If no expansion of the quarries is proposed, where will the 5,000 tons of material come from? How much material do you intend to mine from each quarry?
- ✓7. In your submitted Amendment, you state that you will create 500 tons of waste each year, to be used for "restoration." Your submitted map fails to show where the waste will be stored until final use. What do you propose to do with any overburden or waste material created during these operations? If you plan to expand the length, width or height of ✓ either of these two quarries as a part of your current Amendment, please provide information which will describe the pit dimensions at the conclusion of operations and provide a map which shows any areas where overburden or waste material will be stored until final reclamation occurs. In addition, please provide your preliminary or conceptual

designs, cross-sections and operating plans for mining areas, processing facilities and waste rock and tailing disposal facilities. You must also provide a general schedule of operations from start through closure of the mine and mill site areas. This information is required at 43 CFR 3809.401(b)(2). In addition, please mark the proposed expansion areas or overburden and waste stockpile areas for each quarry on the ground using stakes and flagging so that our specialists can locate these areas in the field;

✓8. In your submitted Amendment map you indicate that you propose to install a water supply pipeline. What is the diameter of your proposed water line? What will its length be? Will the water line be buried or lie on the surface of the ground? If the water line is to be buried, how deep will the trench be? How do you propose to install the water line? Do you propose to excavate a trench for the water line using heavy equipment or a simple trenching device? Including length and width, how much surface area will be disturbed during the installation of the water line? Please flag the water line alignment and the area(s) proposed for surface disturbance during the installation of the line so that our specialists can locate them in the field.

✓9. In your submitted Amendment, you briefly describe your proposed reclamation measures. In order to approve your Amendment, you must provide a detailed reclamation plan which will meet the standards described at 43 CFR 3809.420. Your reclamation plan shall include, but not be limited to the following: 1) saving topsoil for final application after reshaping of disturbed areas have been completed; 2) measures to control erosion, landslides and water runoff; 3) measures to isolate, remove or control toxic materials; 4) reshaping the areas disturbed, application of the topsoil and revegetation of the disturbed areas, where reasonably practicable; and 5) rehabilitation of fisheries and wildlife habitat. ✓ The reclamation plan must also include the removal of buildings, structures and support facilities and describe your plans for post-closure management of the mine area.

✓10. On your submitted Amendment map, you indicate that you will locate a scale on your Turquoise Stone MS #2. Under your existing Plan of Operations, the installation of a scale was not proposed by you and never authorized by this office. Please provide a description of your scale, including length, width and the depth of any excavations made to install the scale.

In your submitted Amendment, you show numerous access roads which lead to inactive quarry areas or to inaccessible areas (e.g. Dugway Road), particularly at the northern end of your Turquoise Stone and Turquoise Stone #6 PMC's. Recent inspections of your claim area indicate that these roads are being actively maintained, yet they lead to inactive or inaccessible sites. Because the access roads have no apparent utility, we suggest that you backfill, regrade and revegetate these unused routes in order to reduce the reclamation liability for your proposed mining operation. If you wish to continue maintaining and using these routes, the associated acreage will be included as part of your final reclamation bond.

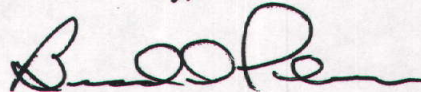
Issues related to your "use and occupancy under the mining laws" of your Turquoise Stone PMC's and MS's will be handled under a separate authorization from the Bureau of Land Management under case file serial number U-77783 and regulations at 43 CFR 3715. You will

receive a letter under separate cover requesting information in addition to that information requested in this letter. "Occupancy" means full or part-time residence on the public lands. It also means activities that involve residence and the construction or maintenance of temporary or permanent structures that may be used for such purposes or the use of a watchman or caretaker for the purpose of monitoring activities. Residence or structures include, but are not limited to, pit and vault-type toilets, barriers to access, fences, tents, motor homes, trailers, cabins, houses, buildings, and the storage of equipment or supplies.

In your letter of May 24, 2002, you requested that we schedule an on-site visit to the mine and mill site area along with Lynn Kunzler of the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining. Lynn will be out of the office until June 10, 2002. We suggest that you first schedule a time and date with Lynn at your convenience (Monday through Friday) and we will make ourselves available for the meeting.

We appreciate your cooperation and ask that you provide the requested information within 30 days of receipt of this letter. We may have additional requests for information as your Plan Amendment is developed. If you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact Michael Ford of my staff at (801) 977-4360.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Palmer", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brad D. Palmer
Assistant Field Manager
Non-Renewable Resources

cc: John S. Kirkham, Stoel Rives LLP
D. Wayne Hedberg, Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining